Amnsements.

THEATRE 8:15 Kate Kip.
O-S-A Dangerous Maid.
S THEATRE-8:15 Merchant of Venice.
MUSEE-Wax Works, Grand Concert and Cine-

GARRICK THEATRE—8:15—Catherine,
GRAND OPERA HOUSE—8—Pousse Cafe,
HARLSM OPERA HOUSE—8:15—In Vagabondia.
HERALD SQUARE THEATRE—8:15—Hotel Topsy Turvy,
IRVING PLACE YHEATRE—8—In Weissen Rocse'l,
KEITH'S—Noon to 11 p, m—Continuous Performance,
KNICKERBOCKER THEATRE—8:15—The Head of the
Family

Family, KOSTER & BIAL'S—8—Vaudeville, KOSTER & BIAL'S—8—Vaudeville, LYCEUM THEATRE—8—7 Treiawny of the Wells.
MADISON SQUARE THEATRE—8.30—On and Off.
MURRAY NILL THEATRE—2—8:15—The Ticket-of-

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Businces Notices.

Roll Top Desks and Office Furniture. Great Variety of Style and Price. T. G. SELLEW.

No. 311 Fulton-st Carl H. Schultz's carbonated waters combine highest efferwescence and agreentle taste WITH ARSO-LUTE PURITY AND CORRECT COMPOSITION.

New-York Daily Tribune

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1898

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

CONGRESS.—Both branches in session.—
Senate: Mr. Platt, of Connecticut, spoke in defence of the right of the United States to acquire and hold territory under any form of government it pleased; debate on the Nicaragua Cand bill was continued.— House: Several bills were passed, including one granting aid to the Philadelphia Exposition of 1860; a resolution providing for a holiday recess was adopted.

adopted.

FOREIGN.—Advices from St. Petersburg say that the American Chargé d'Affaires has submitted to the Ministry of Finance a proposal for a loan by an American syndicate. — The Dreyfus case was again brought before the Chamber of Deputies, and the discussion ended in a vote to sustain the action of the Government. — An explosion on the Fanita. of the W. P. Clyde & Co's line, in Havana Harbor, killed one man and seriously injured several others. — It is reported from Lima that Bolivia's President is preparing to attack La Bolivia's President is preparing to attack La Paz, the capital. — Prince George of Greece started from Athens for Canea to take control Paz, the capital. — Prince George of Greece started from Athens for Canea to take control of affairs in Crete. — Theodore Heine, a German artist, was sentenced to six months' imprisonment for carlcaturing the Emperor's trip. — Lord Napler, who was England's representative here in 1857, is dead.

sentative here in 1857, is dead.

DOMESTIC—Confederate veterans paid honors to the President at Macon, Ca., where he reviewed the troops stationed there; he also reviewed troops at Augusta, Ga., and with his party started on the way back to Washington.

Negotiations for the renewal of the existing commercial treaty with Peru have failed.

The Anglo-American Joint High Commission adjourned until Japuary 5. isting commercial treaty with Peru have failed.

The Anglo-American Joint High Commission adjourned until January 5. Leading Republicans in Albany believe that James A. Roberts, the present State Controller, has under consideration an offer from Governor-elect Roosevelt of the office of Superintendent of Public Works. — The jury failed to agree and was discharged in the second trial of Senator Kenny, of Delaware, for his connection with the misappropriation of the funds of the First National Bank of Dover. — Lieutenant Hobson was kissed by a hundred girls at Kansas City at a reception in his honor. — The new steamer Cape Charles took fire and sank near Norfolk.

CITY.-Stocks were irregular at small final changes. —— It was announced that John E. Searles would retire from the Board of Directors of the American Sugar Refining Company. of the American Sugar Refining Company.

The Board of Health officially declared that the grip was an infectious and contagious disease. The annual report of the Board disease. The annual report of Education was made public. The trial of Education was made public. The trial by court-martial of Captains W. F. Meeks and A. J. Bleecker, of the 71st Regiment, for criticising the conduct of Major Clinton H. Smith Cising the conduct of Major Clinton H. Smith and Captain John H. Whittle at Santiago, was begun in the armory of the regiment.— William Elmendorf, a steamfitter, after attempt-ing to kill his mother, brother-in-law and from Limendorf, a steambiler, after attempting to kill his mother, brother-in-law and common-law wife, shot himself through the head, dying instantly.

Jean Baptiste Colin, an old French florist, was found in a cellar in East Twenty-third-st, with his throat cut, apparently not by his own hand.

THE WEATHER .- Forecast for to-day: The temperature yesterday: Highest, 40 de-grees; lowest, 34 degrees; average, 37% degrees.

THE DUTY THAT LIES NEAREST.

President McKinley returns from his epochmaking trip to the South with public approval ringing in his ears for words like these: "After "destroying their Government, it is the duty of "the American Government to provide for them "a better one. Shall we distrust ourselves; shall we proclaim to the world our inability to give "kindly government to oppressed peoples whose "future by the victories of war is confided to "us?" He had not yet met General Merritt, who, upon landing from the Philippines by way of Paris and London, said: "It is the only course "we could honorably pursue. There was a moral "obligation resting upon us to protect the "natives, and after giving them their freedom it "would be unjust to turn them adrift where they "would be at the mercy of unscrupulous politi-"cians." With these declarations from the Chief Executive of the Nation and from the highest military officer who has personal knowledge of the Philippines, it becomes pertinent to consider what sort of government it is that Americans propose to extend. If freedom under the just and equal laws of this Nation is worth nothing, the right or the duty to extend it to peoples yet unable to establish or maintain good government for themselves may be questioned. But the tree is yet known by its fruit. There has been endless criticism of everything the Government has done or left undone, but the most bitter critics are not migrating to Europe. One of the most earnest and unsparing, a German of unsurpassed knowledge of Old World and American institutions, once listened to a chorus of faultfinding by his associates and quietly remarked: "But while in this country every-"thing in detail seems to go wrong, on the "whole everything goes better here than any-"where else.

After a season of trial this Nation has risen by one wise decision of the people to the highest prosperity ever attained in this or any other country. It is not merely that in aggregate wealth this new country has become the richest in the world, nor yet that in place of foreign indebtedness of more than \$1,200,000,000 it has become creditor of the world. Great progress in wealth sometimes exists without personal well-being for the majority of the inhabitants. But the wage-earners here receive better wages on the whole than are paid in any other country of considerable population, and there is no other civilized country on earth where each dollar received in wages will buy as much of the necessaries and comforts of life as in the United States. Material well-being, it is true, is not the only nor the highest good sought through national government, but it is the needful foundation for everything that is higher.

There is no other land where the rights of all clently by laws which encourage the highest public vastly more important than keeping its and attitude of the Senate toward those outpeople, rich or poor, are protected more effifreedom of all that is consistent with the rights money, should welcome official examinations

chief, and the modes of voting and lawmaking are but means to an end. The door to advancement is open to everybody, even the lowest, and opportunities for every form of faculty, skill or enterprise are more numerous and greater here than anywhere else. For labor of every kind the demand is constantly increasing because of the expansion of industry, the establishment of new works, and the development of new resources, so that the addition of ten million foreign immigrants within a short period has not checked the general advance in wages of labor, which has averaged more than 40 per cent. If such conditions have been created and maintained under no other government in the world. it is only right to ask whether the extension of such a government would not benefit and uplift peoples long oppressed. There is perpetual complaint of shortcomings, it is true, of mistakes and injustice and corruption in instances not a few. But he knows very little of other countries who imagines that their governments are on the whole purer, more free from mistakes, less liable to do irrjustice, than that which is controlled here by a people who listen to all sorts

of complaints because jealous of their rights The notion that mere voting by the untrained and ignorant will create and maintain a government equally good, or good at all, is not in these days seriously entertained by anybody. There has been experience of its results in some Southern States which Northern men have comprehended as well as Southern. Until a people have reached a certain measure of intelligence and practical knowledge and independence of position and feeling, direct control of their Government can be of no more benefit to them than it was during the Reign of Terror or under the Anarchists in France. It would not be a blessing, but a curse, to require the Filipines, without time for training or education, to govern themselves and endure the consequences. How soon real capacity for self-government may be shown in Cuba no one can yet say. But the one thing known and certain is that the greatest blessing which can be given to all these people at present is to extend to them the personal freedom and protection, the security and industrial progress, the encouragement of all enterprise and the opportunity for advancement of all, which American government with its equal and just laws has given to this realized under any other government, it be- to develop complications of the gravest charcountry. If its fruits here are better than those comes not merely a privilege, but a duty, to acter, extend those benefits to "the peoples whose future by the victories of war is confided to us.

THE PRESIDENT'S JOURNEY.

The eventful journey which the President completes to-day will hold a foremost place in his memory as long as he lives, and its consequences navy not improbably be recognized in National affairs long after he has passed away. There was no reason to doubt when he left the capital that he would receive wherever he went the respectful welcome due to the office and to the man, but perhaps Southerners themselves were not prepared to witness such demonstrations of enthusiasm as have attended his progress. The President, having in mind the substance of the speeches which he was about to deliver, may have anticipated a grateful and impressive response, but his hosts, having no prevision of what he would say, could scarcely be expected to foresee what they would do He found the key to their hearts in his first formal address at Atlanta, and that deeply sympathetic reference to the Confederate dead commanded a more than hospitable hearing for every subsequent utterance.

As we have said already, there could be no possible doubt of the President's sincerity in commending the graves of Southern soldiers to the loving care of a united country. Before the outbreak of hostilities with Spain he had repeatedly signified his confidence in the patriotism of the Southern people and his reliance upon their valor and devotion in any crisis involving the honor and safety of the country. From the moment when the final resort was forced upon the Government he neglected no suitable chance to confirm that testimony in the most conspicuous and conclusive manner. How well the grave responsibilities which he imposed upon Southern men were discharged the events of the war declared. The reunion of the sections was made complete and imperishable by their joint service under arms, and for that great blessing the chief credit belongs and is appropriately paid to the President. If there were no other reward for the tolls and sacrifices of the closing year this accomplishment would be sufficient. To do evil that good may come is obnoxious to divine law and human reason, but the unforeseen recompenses of obedience to arduous and unwelcome duty may be accepted with peculiar gratitude. And therefore it is fitting to recognize the importance and rejoice in the success of the President's Southern trip, which has served not merely to reveal but to intensify the loyalty of the American people to their flag and all that it symbolizes.

HOSPITAL INSPECTION.

The Society of the New-York Hospital is a private corporation, and it may be legally justified in refusing to make reports to the State Board of Charities or to permit the inspection of its hospitals by the representatives of the State of New-York. We do not attempt to form any judgment on that point, nor to anticipate the result of the action which the Attorney-General has been requested to bring to compel the society to submit reports and permit inspection. But whatever the legal rights and immunities of the hospital managers, we think there can be no doubt that it is against sound public policy to have such an institution entirely beyond the oversight of the State.

The New-York Hospital is indeed largely supported from private funds, and only in its emergency service is brought into close relations with the government. It, nevertheless, does a public work. It attempts to supply a public want. It opens its doors to the public, and those who enter are so helpless and reliant on the hospital that it is only right for their protection and assurance that there should be some authority with power to investigate the character of their treatment. The fact that the hospital is one of the finest in the country, with a deservedly high reputation, does not make inspection any the less desirable. Certainly it ought not to make it any the more objectionable to those in charge. Banks and insurance companies are private corporations, but the State carefully inspects their operations. body is obliged to deal with them who does not want to any more than anybody is obliged to go to the New-York Hospital who is not satisfied with the excellence of its conduct. But, like the hospital, the banks and insurance companies perform public work and have the welfare of many people in their hands, and so their doings are carefully regulated. Nobody ever thinks the high repuffation or splendid record of a bank is any reason why the bank examiners should not visit it from time to time, It is no reflection on the president of the Fourth National Bank that a Government official looks over his books. The president wants him to, and when the examination is made publishes Gazette," which recalls them, points out, they the result with pride as an additional testi- are equally and, if possible, even more permonial to the character of his institution. So the manager and treasurer of the New-York Hospital, which performs a function for the

undeserved.

Excellent as the New-York Hospital is, we They made their own investigations and kept American people holds Senator Hoar to be exthe results to themselves, and the critics of ap- actly right. parently glaring neglect or incompetence on the part of an ambulance surgeon, for instance, never could obtain any assurance that any adequate corrective or disciplinary measures had been taken. The consequence has been to create in the minds of some persons a feeling that the institution is careless and defiant of outside opinion. This is probably an unjust impression, but the hospital itself is responsible for it. The whole trouble can be avoided by an attitude of conciliation and confidence. The people have a right to know about the conduct of a great charity, which, while it benefits many, has many at its mercy.

GRIP AND DIRT.

The Board of Health has announced through Commissioner Cosby that there is an epidemic of grip in New-York and that the disease is both infectious and contagious. The fact of its existence in epidemic form scarcely needed official confirmation, for half the people one meets have recently had it, have it now or feel as if they were going to have it, and every physician testifies to its prevalence. The declaration of the Board of Health that the disease is contagious, exceedingly so, in fact, and continually spread by ignorance and carelessness, may, and perhaps should, occasion considerable anxiety, though not universally accepted by medical authorities, and though qualified by the consoling assurance that the present epidemic is not likely to reach great proportions and that there is really no cause for alarm. However that may be, the statement put out yesterday may serve the useful purpose of impressing upon reckless persons the folly of negcting a malady which it is never safe to trifle with and which has a remarkable tendency

We desire to say, however, that Commissloner Cosby in assuring the community that the condition of the streets has nothing whatsoever to do with the outbreak of grip seems to have put an unnecessary strain on public credulity. It is the cort of assurance that doesn't assure. Are the atmospheric conditions produced by heaps of snow which for nearly a month have been accumulating filth of every description and as regularly dispersing it favorable to such a state of physical vigor as enables human beings to resist the approaches of an insidious disease? If Commissioner Cosby thinks so, he is in an extremely small minority. Suppose that the specific microbe of grip does not make these foul deposits in most of the erosstown streets its base of operations. Does that justify the assertion that they are not responsible in the least degree for the disease which he pronounces epidemic, infectious and contagious? We do not know that the Board of Health or the Commissioner has accepted a retainer to defend the Street Cleaning Department, but this statement looks like it.

Commissioner McCartney defended himself last Saturday night at the dinner of the West End Association. It was his right to do so, but he made a poor job of it. He said with much emphasis, as if the announcement constituted a triumph, that he had faithfully kept his promise to adhere to Colonel Waring's methods wherever they could not be improved upon. And while he was speaking he must have been aware that the task imposed upon him just three weeks before had not been half finished. If McCartney is following Waring's methods the vast difference between Waring and Me-Cartney could find no more impressive illustration. The Commissioner may not unnaturally derive some consolation from the statement of the Board of Health, but few others will share it. A profound knowledge of the science of medicine is not necessary to refute the proposition that grip flourishes as luxuriantly in a clean as in a filthy city.

DIPLOMACY BY AGITATION.

The newest of the "new diplomacy" of which so much is nowadays heard is not the straightforward truth-telling of which the British Ambassador at Paris has given us a fine example. Rather is it the method adopted by the "antiimperialists" in their frantic and unscrupulous campaign against the policy of the Government and of the Nation. Their conception of correct diplomacy seems to be to interfere in the mest delicate and momentous negotiations with furious outbursts of popular agitation; to utter lurid speeches and newspaper articles, and violent invectives and lampeons; to jump up and down and grow red in the face and shout at the tops of their voices, and to "bombard" some of the diplomatic officers of the Governmentto wit, the Senate-with petitions, remonstrances and what not else. It is not merely diplomacy by town-meeting. It is diplomacy by agitation.

While it is deplorable that such a spectacle should be presented to the eyes of the wondering world, there is, happily, little danger of any material effect being produced by such agitation upon those to whom it is addressed. The Sepate of the United States is a dignified and self-respecting body, jealous of its prerogatives, and quick to resent any attempt to dictate to it or to meddle with its sphere of duty. How it will regard this present agitation has been pretty well set forth in advance by one of its most distinguished and influential memhers. It will be remembered that less than with "The Evening Telegram," of that city. two years ago there was pending before the Senate a general arbitration treaty with Great Britain, just as the Spanish peace treaty is now practically pending. Certain people, including some of these "anti-imperialists" and many others, were desirous of its prompt ratification, and said so. Speeches were made, sermons preached, newspaper articles printed, petitions presented, and attempts made to bring all manner of "influence" to bear upon the Senate. Referring to this state of affairs, Senator Hoar said, in the Senate Chamber, on January 22, 1897;

It seems to me that these gentlemen forget that this is a treaty still in progress of negotia-tion; that the Senate of the United States is a part of the treaty-making power of this country; that its action is a part of the diplomatic action of the United States, and that it is very poor diplomacy, when we are still engaged in such a negotiation. . . to have earnest, eloquent, heated, impatient utterances coming from the pulpit, the press and the colleges. . I hold that this meddling with important diplomacy by angry and impassioned utterances of this kind is infinitely mischlevous and fooltish part of the treaty-making power of this cour

They were exactly suited to that occasion, and

they indicated with authority the attitude of the Senate at that time. As "The Worcester fectly applicable to the lurid outcries of the present day; and it is to be hoped and believed that they equally well indicate the temper cries. Senator Hoar is a wise counsellor, both

of others. Of American institutions that is the which would periodically set forth the information of the Senate and of the Nation, and the judihave quoted may well serve as a monition to his colleagues and as a scathing rebuke to the think it and its patients have suffered some- reckless marplots who are seeking to defeat what from the stress which it has laid on its our diplomacy by obstreperous agitation, and private character. Every hospital is likely to to involve us in interminable controversies, be the scene of some abuse on the part of some | complications and conflicts with foreign Powsubordinate, and at times acts of nurses and ers. Diplomacy by agitation may be "the very surgeons in the New-York Hospital have been newest thing out." But one of our foremost subject to criticism. But the attitude of the authorities in statesmanship declares it to be hospital managers has always been that such "infinitely mischievous and foolish"; and in matters were nobody's business but their own. thus characterizing it the sound sense of the

> Rocks are more dangerous to our Navy than Spanish guns.

> The Hudson Bay route does not seem likely to menace the prosperity of the port of New-Our enemies are nearer home and most of them right at home.

They are talking of a Greater Jersey City. The suburbs had better consult Brooklys about it.

PERSONAL.

Senator Hoar, of Massachusetts, is to be the principal speaker at the New-England dinner in Charleston, S. C., on Thursday evening. This recalls the fact that fifty-four years ago his father, Samuel Hoar, visited Charleston to investigate the arrest, in that city, of four negro sailors on Massa chusetts vessels. When his presence became known the Legislature passed a resolution requesting the Governor to expel him from the State, and the Governor to expel him from the State, and the Sheriff advised him to leave the city at once, which he did. In his official report of the incident he said of the State: "She prohibits not only by her mobs, but by her Legislature, the residence of a free white citizen of Massachusetts within the limits of South Carolina whenever she thinks his presence there inconsistent with her policy." Far different will be the reception of Samuel Hoar's son this week.

The late Edward G. Mason, of Chicago, who had mentioned in connection with the presidency of Yale, was a graduate of that institution, and one of its most loyal sons. He married a Vale man's sister, four of his sons are graduates of Yale, three of his sons are now undergraduates in Yale, three other sons are preparing for Yale, three of his younger brothers are Yale graduates, three of his nephews are Yale graduates, and two nephews are now undergraduates of Yale.

Frank G. Logan, of Chicago, has given \$35,000 to the Chicago Art Institute as a Christmas present. The money will be used to build a library building.

By the will of the late John L. Gardner, of Bos-\$275,000 is set apart in trust for public institutions, to be paid at his widow's death. Of this sum \$100,000 is left to the Boston Museum of Fine \$100,000 to the Boston Lying-in Hospital. \$50,000 to the Massachusetts General Hospital, and \$25,000 to the town of Brookline for its public A most unusual clause in the will pro vides that his executors may refrain from collectng any debt due to him which does not exce \$3,000. Of the remainder of his large estate, which is estimated at about \$4,000,000, he gives about \$200,000 outright to immediate relatives and friends, and disposes of at least \$250,000 to nephews and

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

The fact is recalled that five years ago Andrew Carnegie, who is now violently opposed to expansion, wrote a magazine article entitled "A Look advocating the union of England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland and Canada with the United States. In urging such a union he said: "The American people are favorable to the extension of National coundaries. No evil, but great good, has come from every succeeding addition to their Union. Therefore a proposition to reunite Britain and the Republic would not seem anything novel to them, They are used to territorial expansion. in the history of the world that patriotism is ever expansive. Centuries ago the people of Perugia and Assisi, fifteen miles apart, were deadly enemies. The patriotism of the Perugian and Assisian could not embrace an area so great as fifteen miles. Today patriotism stretches over hundreds of milesin some cases thousands of miles and does not lose, but gains, in intensit, as it covers a wider area. There is more to be patriotic about."

The Probable Reason.—"Ma," said Tommy, as he laid aside the pictorial Rible and looked up.
"What is it?" asked his mother, lowering her

crocheting.
"I know why angels have wings."
"Why, Tomnay?"
"Cause the streets in heaven are all a-flowin'
with milk an honey, an ef they didn't they'd get
their feet sticky."—(Detroit Free Fress.

Says "The Philadelphia Record"; tertal evidence of the intention to build the immense battle-ship Maine, which is to replace the famous namesake destroyed in Havana Harbor, came to hand last week. It was the arrival of several tremendous live-oak timbers at Cramps' shippards, which will be used in the construction of the foundations of the ways in which the huge fighting machine will rest. The timbers have lying in the Boston Navy Yard for over half a entury. They were originally cut in the live-oak forests of Delaware and shipped to Boston for the purpose of using in the construction of wooden ships. When the Government gave out the contract to build the Maine Secretary of the Navy Long was apprised of the fact that this useful timber was lying useless in the Boston Navy Yard. Knowing the value of it for the construction of ways, he had it loaded on flatcars and shipped to the Cramps'.

Additional Value,—"Have you seen a stray dog?"
"What kind?" "What kind?"
"Black and tan. Round spot under his ear. Escaped from his kennel about fifteen minutes ago and ran off in this direction. I wouldn't lose him

and ran off in this direction. I wouldn't loss in for anything."
"What do you value him at?"
"You hundred dollars."
"Well, he's worth more than that now. I saw him going likety-split down that alley five minutes are with at least lo cents' worth of tinware."—(Chicagonith and the same of the sa "The Houtzdale (Penn.) Journal" says:

EF W2 of the Houtzdale girls are slender and delicately tinted; their i i i are like ***, and they are without = in this or any other s. Their frowns are like att and their 12300 excite !!! of pleasure and a desire to m- them. Read this ? closely and do not ? its veracity."

"I always charge my firm \$1 a week or \$2 a year for pennies," said the collector of one of the industries that is alloged to have made Milwaukee famous. "The pennies are distributed among the children I meet on my collecting tours, and my firm pays for them willingly. It is only building up a constituency to buy the beer I collect for. The children don't drink beer now, but they are sent to buy pitchers of the beverage for their parents, and all of them favor my beer because they get my pennies. It is never too carly to begin training young ideas to shoot, I find."—(Milwaukee Sentine).

"The Syracuse Courier" has been consolidated

Sudden Display of Warmth - The bookkeeper said the typewriter girl, "came near proposing to me yesterday afternoon."

"What did he say?"

"He asked me to hold out my finger. I did so, and he blew a ring of smoke on it."—(Chicago Trib-une.

"At my time of life," says a clergyman in "The

of Chicago, "I ought not to be stunned by anything, but after service a good woman of my flock did manage to take my breath away. was preaching about the Father's tender wisdom in caring for us all, and I illustrated by saying that the Father knows which of us grows best in sunlight and which of us must have shade. You know you plant roses in the sunshine, I said, Cold coffee is apt to make the boarders hot The smaller a man's mind is the less he

o know it.
For a merciless critic commend us to the unsucessful author.
The man who is in love with himself has no fear
f being lilted.

of being filted.

The rooster is a tidy bird. He invariably carries a comb with him.

Men semetimes worship women because they are unable to understand them.

Culture doesn't always make a gentleman. Some very large beets are cultured.

The water shark bites a man's leg off, but the land shark merely pulls it.—(Chicago News.

"A Caribon man." says "The Kennebec Journal," "lately wandered into a remote hotel that doesn't keep a dictionary, and on coming down in the morn ing was asked by the landlord how he rested.
Oh, replied the gentleman, 'I suffered nearly all night with insomnia.' The landlord was mad in a minute, and roared 'I'll bet you \$2 there ain't one

Just the Thing.—Mrs. Bingo—I want to send my cousin a Christmas present as a remembrance—semesthing that has no value.

Bingo—Why don't you send her that progressive outhrs prize you won the other night?—(Brookiyn Life.

HIS ADVISERS AND THEIR CURIOUS ARGUMENTS ABOUT ADOPTED CHILDREN.

Sir: Our Uncle Samuel is in a quandary. Somebody has brought to his door three or four poor Spanish children. They are pretty and well favored by nature, but look sickly and halfstarved. They had been maltreated by their parents, who cursed and swore at Uncle Samuel

To the Editor of The Tribune.

when he remonstrated with them, and then incontinently fled, abandering the children to his charge. The first impulse of his great, honest, kindly heart was to take in the little waifs, feed, clothe and protect them against further abuse. In fact, that is what he is doing to-day.

Some of his own children approve his benevoient purpose, but others bitterly oppose it. "Turn the foreign brats out into the street," they say. "They will never come to any good. Let them beg, borrow, steal or fight for a living." "But, don't you think," says Uncle Samuel,

that with a good home and care, and a right education, they might grow up to be honest and useful people?" "What!" cry the horrified opposers. "Do you mean to say you want to adopt them into your

own family? Never! Never! We know your Constitution and your character. They both forbid your adopting any children. We are the family, and nobody else can come into it." "Wry," says Uncle Samuel, "I have been adopting you, one after another, for some years back. There are forty-five of you now, in all,

yourselves, besides the minors that we are keeping at school yet." "Oh, that is different," is the reply. "We all lived next door. But these outcasts were born

that have come of age and are taking care of

and brought up on islands a great way off." "I see," says Uncle Samuel, "and mighty poor bringing up they have had, too. But they need not come regularly into the family. You know nobody ever does come into it unless you all

vote to have them." "That would be worse yet," say the objectors You have no business to have dependents and aliens of ignorant, subject races. You would certainly maltreat and misuse them, just as those Spaniards did. You always do. See how badly you have been treating these Indians and

negroes and Mormons and Chinese "Have I?" says Uncle Samuel. "I did not mean to. I wonder," he remarks meditatively, "that none of them have ever gone away from

here and left me." "Oh, pshaw!" is the answer. "They know they are better off here than they would be any-

"Well, there is comfort in that," says Uncle Samuel, "though it does not exactly tally with what you were saying just now." "You see," continue his advisers, "they are

where else in the world."

of an inferior race, that has to be governed and enslaved and tyrannized over by somebody. They can never learn to take care of themselves. People of dark complexion, born in hot countries, never can." "Then if I turn them adrift somebody else

will get hold of them, and enslave and tyrannize over them?" says he.

"Of course they will," is the answer. "But then you won't be responsible for it. You can just stand round and shake your head, and lament over it."

Uncle Samuel has taken down from the upper shelf some old, wellworn books that he oceasionally looks into, though the young folks think they are not half so interesting as the Sunday newspapers and French novels He says they contain solid chunks of good advice. In one of them he reads: "Hath He not made of one blood all the nations of men?" and "Do unto others as ye would they should do unto you." And in another he reads: "All men are born free" and have "equal political rights," and "Neither race, color or previous condition of servitude" shall prevent. . . . And in another: "The Federal Republic is the best system of government, because it is made up of self-governing communities, steadily increasing in num-

Then laying down the books and looking out of the window Uncle Samuel sees a large bronze torch. This he calls "Liberty Enlightening the World." All his children admire this figure as a pretty conceit, though they say, of course, it cannot really be done, because charity begins at home and candles are so expensive.

Uncle Samuel is continuing to ponder over these things. He thinks it is really one of the most puzzling questions he has met with since he first staked out his farm. FREDERICK W. SEWARD.

Montrose-on-the-Hudson, Christmas time, 1898. FUNERAL OF CALVIN S. BRICE.

LAST HONORS PAID BY FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS

AT HIS OHIO HOME. Lima, Ohio. Dec. 19.-All business was suspended here to-day while the body of the late Calvin S. Brice lay in state. When the train arrived yester-day the body was escorted by the Grand Army of

the Republic posts, the Union Veterans, the Elks and others to the Brice homestead. At 9 o'clock te-day the same procession acted as escort to the First Presbyterian Church, where the body was viewed by thousands, while old comrades did sentinel duty. The pallbearers were W. K. Boone, Walter B. Ritchie, S. S. Wheeler, C. D. Crites, T. D. Robb, H. O. Holeridge, James B. Townsend, J. B. Vaile, of Lima; W. E. Hackedorn, of Indianapolia; Bernard Layton, of Washington, and George W. Hull, of Toledo.

The shops of the Lake Erie and Western Railway were closed and draped, as were other buildings. Among those in attendance with the family were General Samuel Thomas, of New-York, and ex-Governor Foster, who were closely associated with Mr. Brice for over twenty years. Governor Bushnell and staff were also present. The old homestead and the church were both filled with floral tributes. The only member of the Brice family not present was the son, Kirkpatrick, who is in China, and no cablegrams have yet been received in response to those sent every day since the death of his father. The funeral services were conducted by the Rev.

Dr. Robert Thompson, paster of the Market Street Presbyterian Church, at 1 p. m., at the church, of which the Senator was a member. The Rev. Dr. W. O. Thompson, president of Miami University, at Oxford, Ohio, delivered an address on "The Dend as an Example for Young Men." Solos were sung by J. H. Jones, including "The Lord is Mindful of His Own." from Mendelsschn's oratorio "St Paul," and Tennyson's "Crossing the Bar." At the vault in Woodlawn Cemetery the choir rendered "Unvell Thy Bosom, Faithful Tomb." Only a portion of those in attendance gained admission to the church.

HOBSON KISSED BY KANSAS CITY GIRLS.

OVER A HUNDRED PAY THIS TRIBUTE TO THE HERO OF THE MERRIMAC. Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 19 (Special).-Lieutenant

Hobson arrived in this city this afternoon and was met at the station by a large number of persons, who escorted him to the Coates House, where a reception was held. In addition to other callers at least one thousand women were in line to greet the Merrimac hero. He was kissed by over a hun-dred girls before the reception ended. There was also a banquet at the Coates House, attended by two hundred persons. Lieutenant Hobson con-tracted a cold coming from Chicago, but he will go on to Denver in the morning.

JAMES R. KEENE NOT SERIOUSLY ILL. The report that James R. Keene was ill with typhoid fever, it was ascertained yesterday, is without any foundation. Mr. Keene did not comdowntown yesterday because of a slight cold, but he will surely attend to business to-morrow and pos-sibly to-day. Talbot J. Taylor, Mr. Keene's son-in-law, declared emphatically that the report of serious sickness was false, and said that the cause was nothing more than a trifling indisposition.

DINNER FOR ADJT. GEN. TILLINGHAST. Albany, Dec. 18.—A dinner was given in honor of Adjutant-General Tillinghast this evening at the Fort Orange Club. MUSIC.

OPERA IN GERMAN AND ENGLISH.

The second performance of "Die Walklire," which was given last evening at the Metropolitan Opera House, would not invite special comment so closely following the first, given last week, except for the appearance of Herr Van Dyck as Siegmund-the first time he has been able to fulfil any of the engagements made for him outside of häuser," in which the first disclosure of his powers was made to the public. But this alone was sufficient to make it more than ordinarily notable, for he rose to unexpected heights in his portrayal of Wagner's luckless hero. His previous appearances had prepared his hearers for a performance much above the ordinary in matters that imply familiarity with Wagner's demands upon the intelligence of his interpreters, but scarcely for one so splendidly virile and vigorous, and at the same time a passionate, romantic and tender. It cannot be said that Herr Van Dyck's singing was competent to satisfy fastidious ears; the voice still shows the lack of freshness and resonance that have previously been noted; but he throws so poignant a significance into his declamation, and interprets and Illumines the declaimed word with so great a wealth of the actor's resources in expressive gesture, action and facial play, that his interpretation is an unceasing delight. Mme. Eames's Sieglinde was the same beautiful impersonation that was seen last week, in voice and in personal presence, dom, while Mme, Nordica displayed her most splendid power as the Walküre.

A really convincing performance of "The Bohemian Girl" is doubtless too much to look for in this day and age; but the Castle Square Theatre Company, at the American Theatre, went into this matter with heart and soul last evening, just as if they and their hearers were ready to believe thoroughly in its stories of romance, blood and thunder. And they sang it with a fine energy, so that the performance moved rapidly and coherntly, so far as the structure of the opera and the demands for repetitions of old familiar airs would permit. Joseph F. Sheehan as Thaddeus, E. N. Knight as Devilshoof, Adelaide Norwood as Arline and Lizzie Macnichol as the Gypsy Queen were the persons chiefly engaged in the performance, and they all sang well and intelligently what they had The chorus was robust and generally tuneful, and some portions of the stage setting were unsually pretty. It was a performance with which the company might be well satisfied, and was certainly one that mightily pleased a large audi-

INCIDENTS IN SOCIETY.

Mrs. William Temple Emmet and Miss Eleanor Temple Emmet, of No. 12 East Fifty-sighth-st. gave the second of their days at home vesterday

Mr. and Mrs. John C. Westervelt, of No. 7 West Fiftieth-st., will give a dinner party on Thursday evening in honor of General Wesley Merritt. On Friday afternoon next Mrs. Westervelt will give a luncheon in honor of her daughter, Mrs. George

ment of Miss Mabel Van Rensselaer, a daughter of Mrs. Alexander Van Rensselaer, of No. 12 East. Thirty-seventh-st., and a sister of Mrs. Edmund L. Baylies, to the Rev James Le Baron Johnson, & curate of Grace Church, Broadway and Tenth-st The engagement has been reported for some time. Miss Van Rensselaer, whose mother was Miss Louise Barnewell, has been a great favorite in soelety since her introduction several years ago, The Rev. Mr. Johnson is a son of the Venerable Archdencon George Johnston, rector of Christ Protestant Episcopal Church, New-Brighton, Staten Island, and is a graduate of the General Theological Seminary. Before beginning his studies for the ministry Mr. Johnson was cashier of the Metropolitan Bank of Tacoma Wash. While in that city he interested himself in the Fire Department, and although not a paid member of the force, worked at the fire with the regular members. On his return to this city, and while pursuing his studies at the Seminary, he continued his interest in firemen. At his ordination as a deacon, two years ago, over two hundred firemen were present. He was soon appointed an assistant at Grace Church, and on Sunday morning last was ordained priest in St. Agnes's Chapel, Trinity Parish, West Ninety-second-st. On Sunday evening he conducted services and preached his first sermon to the congregation of Grace Church. The wedding will be celebrated soon after the Easter holidays. Protestant Episcopal Church, New-Brighton, Staten

The engagement is formally announced of Miss Jean Edgar Clerke, daughter of the late William B. Clerke, to William Macneven Purdy, at one time secretary of the Knickerbocker Bowling Club, and a brother of John Henry Purdy, of this city.

The ninety-third musical morning of Albert Morris Bagby took place in the grand ballroom of the The great hall and Waldorf-Astoria, yesterday. the numerous boxes were filled with people well known in the social world. The programme was igure standing at his front gate and holding a an attractive one, including selections on the 'cello Henri Albers, of the Metropolitan Opera House Company. Orton Bradley was at the plano. A number of luncheons were given by Mr. Bagby's guests after the concert.

THE VARIETY THEATRES.

A programme including several new features was presented at Koster & Bial's last night, and the occasion was set down as the opening of the winter season of that house. The prettiest part of the bill was the last part, a flying ballet. Such things are not so much of a novelty here, as the house programme would have its readers believe, but nothing of the sort has ever been done better in New-York. The butterfly effects were especially pleasing, though improvement in them might still be imagined. The Allison Troupe gave an excellent acrobatic performance, and the Dartos did some interesting dancing. Miss Ida Heath danced so that everybody could see her, and she sang so that it is probable that the leader of the or-chestra could hear her, but nobody else could feel sure of it. Mile, Marzella had some highly accom-plished birds, and an astonishing amount of appa-ratus to help her in exhibiting them. Virginia Aragon repeated her skilful performance on the high wire. There were a few other performers who were more or less attractive, but not new.

The Eden Musée was attractive last evening, and it was well filled. The cinematograph exhibits are especially interesting. At 3 and 9 p. m. Till's Marionettes present a Christmas pantomime en-titled "Blue Beard."

Many attractive holiday features were contained in the programme of the continuous performance at Proctor's Twenty-third Street Theatre yesterday, which included McIntyre and Heath, Helene Mera, Billian Burkhart, Hayes and Lytton, Can-field and Carleton, operatic burlesquers; Montacom-ery and Stone, song and dance performers; Riaita, fire dancer, the five All brothers, and others.

Marshal P. Wilder amused the crowds at the Pleasure Palace yesterday, and his efforts were seconded by those of many other able performers. Among the features of the programme were Miss Grace Huntington, in "Checkmate", Reno and Richards, Lafayette, the mimic, and "The Battle of San Juan."

Mrs. Louise Thorndyke Boucicault and Howard Kyle, in "Proper Impropriety," were at the head of the bill at Keith's Union Square Theatre yes. terday. There were also Pilson and Errol, Will M. Cressy, in a rural sketch, with Blanche Dayne, Al. Leech and the three Rosebuds, Charles T. Aldrich, George Thatcher and Edward Marble, Edward Latell, Louise Truax, the brothers Damm, and numerous others.

The amusement did not flag at Tony Pastor's Theatre yesterday. Contributions to the programme were made by Miss Gertle Cochran, Johnson, Davenport and Lorella; Ward and Curran, Miss Carrie Scott and her little protegé, Baby Monk; the Elinore sisters, George H. Fielding, juggler: the Mo-rello troupe; Murray and Alden, in "A Personal Affair". Fostelle and Emmett, in a musical act; Byron and Blanch, Miss Annie Wilmuth, Gus Clif-ford and Lillian Hall, Smith and Blanchard, and the Sisters Revere.

Nothing new is to be reported of the state of affairs at Weber & Fields's Music Hall. The place is happy in having so little history. The same bur-lesques were seen again last night, and were en-joyed in the usual thorough manner.

Diving and snake-charming and sword-juggling Street Museum this week. Large crowds filled the rooms yesterday and marvelled at the wonders displayed. are the leading attractions at Huber's Fourteenth

ADMIRAL SAMPSON DETAINED IN CUBA. Glen Ridge, Dec. 19 (Special).-There is some doubt as to whether Rear-Admiral Sampson and

Mrs. Sampson, who are now in Havana, will be able to spend Christmas with their family here. The Admiral expected to start for home two weeks ago, but on account of the disturbances in Havans they have been detained there. It is thought now that the Admiral will not be home much before the day set for the marriage of his daughter. January 4, and that he will be able to remain here only a rew days.